Howland Wood - Curatorial

Nützel, Heinrich, Prof., Dr.
[Kaiser Freidrich Museum
Berlin, Germany]

1914-1916

July 21, 19141

Konigliche Museem
Berlin, Germany,
Dr. Heinrich Nutzel,

Dear DR. Nutzel:-

I am taking the liberty of writing you and sending you my list of coins struck at Omdurman. I am very anxious to get casts or information of any types that I do not have as I am hoping to make a list of these for the American Journal of Numismatics, published by our Society.

I have been unable to locate one of the gold pieces struck by the Mahdi, and I would also like to locate whether the Mahdi struck a ten piastre piece in silver. My theory is that the pieces dated 1302 were struck about 1312 but dated 1302 to make them pass more readily than the debased coins made after 1304. I don't consider this date an accident as I have a number of different dies bearing this date. Of the pieces dated 1304 I am anxious to get casts of the 10 piastre piece as well as casts of those specimens with the 4 on the reverse in place of a 1. Also whether a 10 piastre piece was struck this year with a 1 on it. I have a record that one was struck with a ten. Also I am anxious to verify the fact whether pieces were struck in 1311 without arrows on the reverse, what I call type 2. Also whether a one piastre piece was struck in 1310. I understand also that coins were struck in 1313 but I have never seen any specimens, nor have I seen any specimens of 1314. Probably none were struck in this later year.

Any information that you can give me would be very acceptable, and any expense that you may incur, please let me know. The manuscript I am sending you is my only perfect copy and I would want it back. You are at liberty to take any notes from this that you wish, and if I can give you casts or information on these coins or any Oriental coins, please command me.

I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Recd Oct 3

KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN IN BERLIN.

KAISER-FRIEDRICH-MUSEUM

BERLIN, C. 2, den 9. September 1914.

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Ihre Briefsendung mit dem beigefügten handschriftlichen Material über die Münzen des Mahdi im Sudan ist wegen der durch den ungeheuren Völkerkrieg verursachten Verkehrsstörungen erst vor wenigen Tagen hier eingetroffen. Doch ist Ihr Manuscript damit gesichert und vor dem Verlust gerettet. Davon wollte ich Ihnen zunächst Nachricht geben um Sie zu beruhigen.

Selbstverständlich werde ich Ihnen mit besonderer Bereitwilligkeit, soweit ich es irgend vermag, Auskunft über die gestellten Fragen sowie Gipsabdrücke von Exemplaren unserer Sammlung, die Ihnen fehlen, zur Verfügung stellen.

Ich wage es jedoch jetzt noch nicht wegen der sehr unsicheren Postverbindung aus unserem eingeschlossenen Deutschland heraus

Ihnen Ihr Manuskript zusammen mit meinen Ergänzungen zuzusenden, sondern bitte Sie heute nur mir doch gütigst mitzuteilen, ob dieser Brief richtig in Ihre Hände gelangte und ob ich darnach Ihre Papiere zurückschicken soll.

Darf ich diese Gelegenheit benützen Ihnen auch einige Worte zu schreiben über die augenblickliche politische Lage in Deutschland.

Vor allem seien Sie dessen unbedingt versichert, dass in ganz Deutschland von unserem lauteren edlen wahrhaftigen Kaiser an bis zum geringsten Bettler niemand einen Krieg wollte, sondern dass uns der Krieg von England u. Russland nach jahrelanger Vorbereitung in der heimtückischsten Weise aufgezwungen wurde. Wenn Sie erst Kenntnis erhalten werden von den urkundlichen Beweisen, werden Sie erstaunt sein über Deutschlands Ehrlichkeit und unserer Feinde Lüge und Arglist. – Als wir aber dann gezwungen wurden für unsere Ehre, für unsere ganze Existenz das Schwert zu ziehen, da stand ganz Deutschland einmütig zusam-

nen, da gab es keine Parteien mehr, eine wunderbare heilige Begeisterung hob das ganze Volk ohne jede Ausnahme zur höchsten sittlichen Höhe empor. Sieben ~~Königreiche~~ Reiche erklärten uns den Krieg, aber nirgends eine Spur von Angst, Furcht, Verzagtheit bei uns, aber auch keine Renommisserei, kein Hochmut, keine phrasenhafte Überhebung. Und wenn die Feinde nicht genug von deutscher Panik zu berichten wussten, so ist das törichtester Unsinn, absolut erlogen. Ein solch erhebendes Selbstvertrauen, ein solch felsenfestes Gottvertrauen, eine solche Sicherheit des völlig reinen Gewissens in mitten einer ganzen Welt von Feinden hat die Erde noch niemals bei einem Volke gesehen. Wer dies nicht selbst mit erlebt, der kann es gar nicht glauben oder verstehen. Wir Deutschen selbst hätten dies vorher nicht für möglich gehalten. Und dann die entsetzlichen Greueltaten, die man uns vorwirft. Es ist wahr, unsere Soldaten haben in Belgien, in Frankreich ganze Dörfer zerstört, haben deren männliche Bevölkerung u. auch Frauen in grosser Zahl fusiliert, haben einen Teil von Löwen verbrannt u. zerschossen. Aber – – wissen Sie denn auch, dass die Civilbevölkerung aller dieser

Bete in der entsetzlichsten Weise unsere Soldaten aus den Häusern u. zwecklosen Hinterhalte beschossen hat, dass man unsere Soldaten doch unzählige Male freundlich in die Häuser aufgenommen u. bewirtet hat u. ~~Ihn~~ ihnen dann Nachts die Kehle abgeschnitten, die Zungen herausgerissen, die Augen ausgestochen hat, dass entmenschte Frauen, ja 12 jährige Mädchen die armen Verwundeten in der scheusslichsten Weise verstümmelt, ihnen die Geschlechtsteile, die Ohren, die Nasen abgeschnitten haben usw. usw., dass feindliche Verwundete unsere Ärzte, nachdem diese Ihnen in freundlichster Weise geholfen hatten, erstochen, erschossen haben, dass Frauen Handgranaten, die sie doch von den Behörden erhalten haben müssen, auf unsere durchziehenden Soldaten, gegen Verwundete u. Ärzte warfen, dass all dies nicht nur einige Male hier u. da geschah, sondern tagtäglich, in ganz Belgien, an der ganzen französ. Grenze viele tausend Male — Was bleibt da einem noch so disciplinierten humanen Heere anderes übrig um sich solch unmenschlichen Franctireurs zu erledigen — ?! Ich gebe Ihnen die heiligste Versicherung, dass all diese Tatsachen absolute Wahrheit sind, dass tausende unserer tüchtigsten Volksgenossen, die in unserem Volks-

heere den Krieg mitmachen, Offiziere, Gelehrte, hohe Beamte, Bürger, Arbeiter alle in gleicher Weise von diesen Schandtaten der feindlichen Civilbevölkerung voll tiefster sittlicher Entrüstung berichten.

Wissen Sie, dass Frankreich u. England die furchtbaren Dumdum-Geschosse gegen uns verwenden, die solch entsetzliche Wunden reissen, dass in den eroberten Festungen u. Lagern grosse Mengen solcher angebohrter, eingekerbter Geschosse noch in der amtlichen Originalverpackung mit officieller Abstempelung gefunden worden sind?

Wir erbitten und rechnen nicht auf fremde Hülfe; wir erbitten die gnädige Hülfe des gerechten heiligen Gottes und rechnen allein auf unsere starke Kraft und unseren begeisterten Willen zu siegen und zu leben. Aber wir wollen unsere Ehre vor der neutralen Welt nicht in der nichtswürdigsten Art

antasten und beflecken lassen, gerade auch nicht vor Amerika, der U. St., für die in ganz Deutschland seit Jahren aufrichtige Sympathie und Achtung vorhanden ist.

Und darf ich ohne jede Überhebung noch Eines sagen: ich meine, dass die Culturentwicklung der gesamten Menschheit dem deutschen Volke doch unendlich viel verdankt, in der Religion (Luther u. die Reformation) und der Ethik, in Philosophie und Wissenschaft, in allen schönen Künsten, von Dürer bis Thoma, Lenbach, Leibl, von Mozart bis Wagner, in der Literatur von Lessing über Goethe bis zu den Modernsten, in der Technik bis zu Krupp u. Zeppelin u. s. w. Ist es dem gegenüber zu viel gesagt, wenn ich meine, dass mit der von Mr. Grey u. Genossen beabsichtigten völligen Vernichtung Deutschlands auch die sittliche, geistige, wirtschaftliche Cultur der Gesamtmenschheit in ihren besten Quellen zu Teil vernichtet und überall auf Jahrhunderte zurückgeworfen würde.

Aber noch leben wir und noch schwingen wir mit stählerner Faust unser gutes deutsches Schwert und haben bisher damit unseren Feinden im Westen und Osten gewaltige Schläge beigebracht, von deren Heldentum Sie vielleicht erst nur ganz wenig vernommen haben. Und wir werden unerschüttert und furchtlos kämpfen und mit Gottes Hülfe auch siegen. Aber auch im Erliegen nur impavidum ferient ruinae!

Wollen Sie diesen Herzenserguss eines einzelnen unbedeutenden Deutschen als ein Zeichen des achtungsvollen Vertrauens aufnehmen, das wir einzeln u. zusammen zu Ihrem Volke und Lande hegen.

In aufrichtiger Ergebenheit

Professor Dr. H. Nützel.

May I take advantage of this opportunity to write also a few words as to the present political conditions in Germany?

First and foremost, I beg to assure you in the most absolutely positive manner, that in all Germany from our disinterested, noble, truth-loving Emperor, down to the lowest beggar, nobody wanted a war, but that the war was forced upon us by England and Russia after a preparation of years in the most treacherous manner. When, and only when you become acquainted with the documentary proofs, you will be astonished at Germany's honesty and the lying and deceit of our enemies. But when we were forced to draw the sword for our honor, and for our whole existence, then all Germany drew unanimously together. Then there were no more parties, a wonderfully holy enthusiasm exalted the whole people without any exception, to the loftiest moral height. Seven countries had declared war upon us, but no where was there a trace of anxiety, fear, or despondency amoung us, and on the other hand, no boasting, no arrogance, no conceited rhetoric. And if our enemies could not say enough about a panic in Germany, be assured that that is the silliest nonsense, absolute fabrication. Such up lifting self reliance, such adamantine trust in God, such firmness of perfectly pure conscience in the midst of a whole world of enemies, has never before been seen in any one nation on this earth. Whoever has not beheld it with his own eyes cannot beleive or understand it at all. We Germans ourselves would not have believed this possible beforehand. And then the awful atrocities with which they charge us. It is true, our soldiers did destroy whole villages in Belgium and France, shoot their male population and even women in large numbers, burn and shoot to pieces a part of Louvain. But be assured that the civil population of all those places fired upon our soldiers from houses and other ambush in the most hideous manner. That our soldiers countless times were kindly received and entertained in the houses and then during the night had their throats cut, their tongues tornmout, their eyes put out; that bestialized women, nay,

twelve year old girls mutilated our poor wounded men in the most horrible manner, cutting off ears, noses, etc, etc, that the enemy's wounded killed by stabbing or shooting our surgeons after the latter had helped them in the kindest way; that women threw at our soldiers as they marched along, at our wounded and doctors, hand grenades, which they certainly must have received from the authorities; that all this was not done only a few times here and there, but was a daily occurence in all Belgium and along the whole French border, thousands of times. Under these circumstances what is there for an army to do, no matter how disciplined and humane, but to rid itself of such inhuman franctireurs.

I assure you in the most sacred manner that all these facts are absolute truth, that thousands of our best fellow-countrymen who took part in our national war, officers, scholars, high officials, business men, workmen, all agree in reporting, filled with deepest moral indignatia these hideous deeds of the enemy.

Are you aware that France and England employ against us the frightful dum-dum bullets which make such horrible wounds; that in the captured forts and camps large quantities of such bored and notched bullets were found still in the original packages, with the official stamp?

We do not implore or rely upon the help of others, we implore the gracious help of the just and holy God, and rely alone upon our powerfull strength and enthusiastic will, to win and to live. But we do not wish to let our honor be impaired and besmirched in the basest manner in the eyes of the neutral world, especially not in the eyes of America, the United States, for which all Germany for years has had a sincere liking and respect. And may I say without the slightest conceit, still one more thing? I believe that the development of civilization of all humanity surely owes an infinite amount to the German people in religion (Luther and the Reformation) and ethics, in philosophy and science, in all the fine arts, from Dürer to Thoma, Lembach, Leibl, from Mozart to Wagner, in literature from Lessing through Goethe to the most modern writers, in mechanics ending with Krupp and Zeppelin. In view of that, is it say-

ing too much if I express the opinion that if in accordance with the intentions of Mr. Grey and his associates, Germany is utterly destroyed, then also the moral, mental, economic civilization of the whole human race will be destroyed in part at its best sources and there would be every where a retrogression of centuries.

But we still live and we still brandish our good German sword with hand of steel, and up to this time we have dealt with it in the west and the east tremendous blows to our enemies, of the heroic character of which you perhaps have heard very little so far. And we shall fight, unmaken and fearless, and with the help of God, also win. But even if we fall, Impavidum ferient ruinae (we shall stand undaunted amid the tumbling walls)

Will you receive this outpouring of the heart of a single insignificant German as a token of the respectful confidence in your people and country that is cherished in us, one and all?

With sincere respect,

Professor Dr. H. Mutzel

The above is the second part of a letter dated

Konigliche Museen in Berlin. Kaiser-Friedrich-Museum

Berlin, C. 2, den 9 September 1914.

(the double scoring means printed letters). The shorter first part, here omitteddis on museum business.

The letter was addressed

Mr. Rowland Wood

The American Numismatic Society

Broadway at 156th Street

New York, U. S. A.

The letter is written German, postmarked berlin, and was uncealed (not pasted shut)

May I take advantage of this opportunity to write also a few words as to the present political conditions in Germany?

First and foremost, I beg to assure you in the most absolutely positive manner, that in all Germany from our disinterested, noble, truth-loving Emperor, down to the lowest begger, nobody wanted a war, but that the war was forced upon us by England and Russia after a preparation of years in the most treacherous manner. When, and only when you become acquainted with the documentary proofs, you will be astonished at Germany's honesty and the lying and deceit of our enemies. But when we were forced to draw the sword for our honor, and for our whole existence, then all Germany drew unanimously together. Then there were no more parties, a wonderfully holy enthusiasm exalted the whole people without any exception, to the loftiest moral height. Seven countries had declared war upon us, but no where was there a trace of anxiety, fear, or despondency amoung us, and on the other hand, no boasting, no arrogance, no conceited rhetoric. And if our enemies could not say enough about a panic in Germany, be assured that that is the silliest nonsense, absolute fabrication. Such up lifting self reliance, such adamantine trust in God, such firmness of perfectly pure conscience in the midst of a whole world of enemies, has never before been seen in any one nation on this earth. Whoever has not beheld it with his own eyes cannot beleive or understand it at all. We Germans ourselves would not have believed this possible beforehand. And then the awful atrocities with which they charge us. It is true, our soldiers did destroy whole villages in Belgium and France, shoot their male population and even women in large numbers, burn and shoot to pieces a part of Louvain. But be assured that the civil population of all those places fired upon our soldiers from houses and other ambush in the most hideous manner. That our soldiers countless times were kindly received and entertained in the houses and then during the night had their throats cut, their tongues tornmout, their eyes put out; that bestialized women, nay,

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New York, U. S. A.

Professor Dr. Nützel.
Berlin C2.
Kgl. Museen.

Translation

My friend, Mr. H.W. has shown me your interesting letter and I was pleased to hear the views of one person who is actually now near the scene of actual warfare.

Among intelligent people here I find many who defend the course of the Germans, the majority, however, are on the other side. These views are attributable to some extent to our newspapers of which the proportion is forty (perhaps even more) printed in the English language to one in German.

But what we do not hear, and yet would like to know, is how the Germans live in these times; whether the war has raised the price of food products, whether places of amusement are frequented, in fact the details of daily life in the cities.

Now I have a small favor to ask you.

—(Remainder of letter relates to Asiatic Society).

First draft not sent.

My dear Professor

Your letter of September 1st reached me on October 3rd and I want to thank you for the consideration you have given to my letter and manuscript and I also feel deeply gratified in your kind appreciation of the German viewpoint of this terrible war. I have had a very kind response to whom your letter to one of my friends in Berlin, may translate and publish parts of it in some papers, although merely everything that you have written has been given much publicity here, fortunately.

Now as to the manuscript and photos. It may be just as well for you to hold these until transportation is more settled and safer. I leave this to your judgment. I am — not sure.

I wish now to say a few words as regard the attitude towards the war in this country and I intend to speak frankly and ~~without~~ plainly. First let me say that we here know what war is, especially the older ones, for in 1860-1865 we had one of the most horrible wars of modern times when brother fought against brothers and hate & feelings ran high when every landmark and vestige of life were swept away in those parts of the country where the opposing armies fought back and forth for four years. In that war General Sherman ~~said~~ used the now well known expression "War is Hell." This feeling is now instilled in the American people so that they read of the terrible things that happen — yes — with as much sympathy for the sufferers as for those that have been obliged to inflict the damage as.

Some historian has said of the American people that as a nation they are fair-minded and charitable. Certainly when momentary passions die down they form their own independent judgments. What we want here is the truth, this we will not get for a long time, probably the whole of it never, but rest assured that the version of one side will have little weight over here. What I mean is, there will be the American people will not rejoice so much with the victorious side as they will extend the helping hand to the beaten.

The national government is maintaining an absolutely impartial neutrality ~~despite what you may hear~~ favoring neither side. [illegible] as

The press is making the most of every bit of news it can get hold of and on the whole is ~~trying~~ treating both sides fairly. Every bit of German news is printed, and we get more and more every day. At first all of the news came from English sources and was much colored and coloured and we complained about this as much as you did. We now get our news from all sources. German news we get by wireless, by cable from Germany, neutral lands, ~~and~~ Italy and Scandinavia, by mail and returning passengers. In fact I think we get now more real German news than you get in Germany. On the other hand the press is more pro British than pro German so this I do not mean that the press is anti German.

As for the American people, sentiment is of all kinds, very little of what one might call rabid, naturally in this country where all nations are represented opinions are divided. The majority I think lean more to the French side than to the German. The reason for this is of long standing and is almost too complicated to detail on a blackboard. It is the feeling of a non military people against intensive militarism and sympathy for a sister republic. On the other hand we Americans feel more closely drawn to the German people than to the French people. But for years the feeling has been apparent here, strengthened by our young men who have studied in Germany, that Germany's great desire was to eventually crush France. But what about the desire of France to revenge itself on Germany you may ask. On that side it seemed ~~not~~ possible of accomplishment & however been viewed seriously. You ~~will~~ see these factors initiate the present war. ~~Jealousy of Germany's growing power and commercial greatness is not a part of this entire. I think people here are open~~ People over here are open to reason and would appreciate any good exposition of facts of the German side, but as you no doubt appreciate Germany hampered in as she ~~was~~ now is has not been as well able to make herself heard as has the other side. In fact many of the arguments that have been presented have not had the force or ~~brought~~ weight of the right character to overcome prejudices that have already grown up, ~~chiefly from~~

Who was responsible for the war and who could have prevented it have not played an important part on here as far as shaping public opinion. Most of us have given up trying to solve this as a bad job. The sentiment first became apparent against Germany when she invaded Belgium, the American sense of "fair play" asserted itself. This violated the American sense of "fair play". The so called atrocities in Belgium the destruction of Louvain not cause the German people much of any notoriety and they need not feel they have been falsely misrepresented. The first news of these events caused a decided shock in this country and momentarily a decided prejudice against your country. But the German version soon came over, at first not wholly believed, but as the versions of your side came from so many sources it has gained good weight here. The more intelligent believed from the start that there must be two sides to the story and could not conceive how an army so well disciplined as the German army could wantonly commit such outrages. We realize that horrible things are bound to happen in war and individual barbarities have undoubtedly been committed by all sides. Nevertheless we do think over here that reprisals went too far and in some instances got out of hand, we also firmly believe that the German army is as anxious to prevent future repetitions of such a nature as anyone. We here are as much shocked at the barbarities done to your soldiers as you are, for a soldier is a human being, a brother a son a father, ~~of humanity~~, and

wishing that the [illegible] had never started and that he was at home with his family and [illegible].

As you must know we Americans have friends on both sides. Probably I have people fighting on each side. We too have our [illegible] and [illegible], greatly over the terrible loss of human life and the neglect [illegible] the destruction of property and the suspension of industries and that [illegible] civilization [illegible].

Every one here is [illegible] praying for peace, a peace that will be enduring.

156TH STREET, WEST OF BROADWAY
NEW YORK

The attention of members is called to the provisions regarding fees, dues and membership in the revised By-Laws, as adopted January 17, 1910.

CHARLES PRYER, Treasurer.

CHAPTER III

FEES AND DUES

1. Members elected as Life Members on or before January 17, 1910, shall not be required to pay fees or dues.

2. Honorary and Corresponding Members shall not be required to pay fees or dues.

3. The annual dues of Members shall be Fifteen Dollars, payable in advance. A Member elected at a meeting held after July 1 shall pay half dues for the current year.

4. Any Member of the Society who has, for a period of twenty consecutive years, regularly paid all dues, or who shall pay the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars, may, by resolution of the Council, be relieved from further dues.

5. The dues of Associate Members shall be Five Dollars per annum, payable in advance. An Associate Member elected at a meeting held after July 1 shall pay half dues for the current year.

6. Any Associate Member who has, for a period of twenty consecutive years, regularly paid all dues, or who shall pay the sum of Fifty Dollars, may, by resolution of the Council, be relieved from further dues.

7. Any Member desiring to become an Associate Member shall have the right to do so, upon filing a written notice of such change with the Secretary.

8. Members of all classes shall be entitled, upon qualifying, to receive a membership certificate signed by a majority of the Governors and bearing the seal of the Society, attested by the Secretary; they shall also be entitled to the bronze medal of the Society upon payment of three dollars, or to its silver medal upon payment of six dollars, or to its badge upon payment of such sum as may be fixed from time to time by the Society.

9. The colors of the Society shall be gold, silver and bronze.

CHAPTER IV

MEMBERSHIP

1. Members of all classes in good standing shall be entitled, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution or By-Laws, to the rights and privileges usually accorded, and to the use of the library and cabinets of the Society, under such regulations as are provided relating thereto.

2. Any Member or Associate Member in arrears for more than one year shall not be considered a Member in good standing, and may be dropped from the roll by resolution of the Council.

3. Resignations of Members of all classes shall be made in writing to the Council. A Member or Associate Member presenting his resignation after the third Monday in January shall not be relieved from paying his dues for the current year.

4. Any Society which is an Honorary Member may be represented at any meeting by one duly accredited representative, who shall have the right to vote on behalf of such Society.

5. Corresponding Members and Associate Members shall have all the privileges of the Society except the right to vote and hold office. Honorary Members shall have all the privileges of the Society.

9. Any person contributing Five Hundred Dollars at one time to the permanent fund shall be entitled "Patron of the Society."

Oct. 7, 1914.

Professor Dr. H. Nutzel

My dear Professor:-

Your letter of Sept. 9th reached me on Oct. 3rd. I want to thank you for the consideration you have given my letter and manuscript, and your kindness in helping me both with information and casts concerning the coinage of the Dervish revolt in the Sudan.

As for the return of the manuscript and the plaster casts, although I am in no hurry for these, I should be glad to have them whenever possible. It may be just as well for you to hold them until transportation is more settled and safer. This I will leave to your judgement, as you can tell better than I when you consider it fairly safe to send them.

I also feel much flattered at the long letter you wrote me concerning the German view point of this terrible war. As you most likely know, the greater part of the news we receive here comes from sources hostile to Germany. This was especially so at the beginning of the war, however, we are now getting considerable German news and it has been very acceptable because the Americans want to know both sides and consequently be able to judge fairly. We still get much more news from France and England than we do from Germany, but since the German news has come over it has present the situation in a different light. The papers here are printing every bit of German news they can get a hold of and are treating your country in a fair manner.. If we

had more German news I think the people here would appreciate it. You have very good friends in this country, but probably the bulk of the opinion favors the other side more than your side.

I am enclosing a letter from a German-American which will show you his view point. He also asks for certain information.

Trusting to hear from you again as we are both interested in a common subject, I remain,

Very truly yours,

December 21, 1914.

Professor Dr. H. Nutzel
Kaiser Friedrich Museum,
Berlin, C. 2.
Germany.

My dear Dr. Nutzel:-

I am writing you again in case my first letter to you might not have reached you. If it has not, please let me know and I will send you a copy of it. We have been receiving of late, regular communication, books etc., from Germany and I think that it would now be safe enough for you to send to me, the manuscript and plaster casts of the Saturnian coins. I would also be pleased at any time to have you send us over for publication in The American Journal of Numismatics, anything you would like to give us.

I suppose you would be interested in hearing how our attitude concerning the war is since your last letter, for I should judge from accounts in the German Press, that the people in Germany have to some extent, a wrong idea. Most of the newspapers in this country are Pro-British rather than Pro-German, but they are not hostile to Germany. I think they are trying to present both sides in a fair manner. We are printing a large amount of German news. Some every day by wireless, some from Denmark, Netherland and Italy, though much of this comes through England. Also, we are printing a great deal of older news that comes from letters and papers sent through the mails. Nevertheless, as you will notice, the larger part of the news is English or French. Personal feelings over here are naturally divided, some favor one side, some favor the other. A great deal of work is being done for the Germans, and more would be done if help and relief could get to Germany direct.

We have in the Society a fine collection of German coins, and a really wonderfull collection of decorations and Orders. We have put prominently on display, the badges and decorations of the countries now at war, and the Iron Cross, of which we have a number, of 1813 and 1870, have attracted a great deal of attention. Nearly everybody asks forsee these. Would it be possible to get an Iron Cross of the present war, as it would create a great deal of interest? Also any commemorative coins that may come out, please piece of emergency (necessity) money. I have only the present 5 mark note. Anything you can send me

I know would be of great interest to the public, and I would promptly remit to you the price.

My sincerest wishes go with you, and I herewith extend to you the compliments of the holiday season.

I remain,

Very truly yours,

KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN IN BERLIN.

KAISER-FRIEDRICH-MUSEUM

BERLIN, C. 2, den 19. Januar 1915.

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Ihre beiden Briefe vom 7. Oktober und 21. Dezember 1914 habe ich richtig erhalten. Die so lange Verzögerung meiner Antwort wollen Sie gütigst damit entschuldigen, daß mir im Oktober ein blühender hoffnungsvoller Sohn, cand. med., im Alter von 23 Jahren plötzlich an den Folgen einer Blinddarmgeschwulst gestorben ist und daß ich selbst in Folge dieses schweren Schicksalsschlages erkrankte und deshalb in den letzten Monaten nur ganz wenig arbeiten konnte.

Ich habe nun aber heute Ihr Manuskript an die zurückgeschickt und hoffe, daß es Sie richtig erreichen wird.

Nun zur Sache selbst: zunächst möchte ich Ihnen meinen Dank aus

schreiben zu dem reichen Material, das Sie an Mahdi-Prägungen gesammelt haben. Möchte es Ihnen gelingen, mit Ihrer Arbeit den Abschluß der ganzen Frage zu bringen.

Aus nun Ihre einzelnen Fragen anlangt so will ich sie gern, soweit ich es vermag, beantworten.

Über die einzige Goldprägung des Mahdi kann ich nur auf das verweisen was ich bereits in meiner kleinen Arbeit vom Jahre 1894 ausgesprochen habe. Unsere Sammlung besitzt allerdings kein solches Stück, ich habe jedoch eines im Besitze meines Freundes, des früheren Direktors der Khedivialen Bibliothek in Kairo Prof. Dr. Moritz, gesehen. Irgend ein besonderes Merkmal für seine Abstammung vom Mahdi trägt das Stück nicht, es ist ein orientalischer Typus aus Legenden hat. Doch geben die übereinstimmenden Berichte über die Ausgabe des Mahdi Gewähr für die Authentizität dieser Münze.

10-Piaster-Stücke vom Mahdi selbst sind mir nicht bekannt geworden. Aus die als ganz geringwertigen Mahdi geprägten 20-Piasterstücke mit der Jahreszahl 1302 anlangt so ist es ganz sicher daß sie nicht wirklich bereits 1302 geprägt sein können. Da wir nur 1 Stück dieser Art besitzen so hatte

ich bisher angenommen, daß wir ein Versehen des Stempelschneiders vorliegen. Eine Erklärung läßt sich nicht unbedingt erhalten, nachdem Sie eine ganze Anzahl solcher Stücke besitzen. Ob aber Ihre Vermuthung, daß man durch diese Umdatierung der Münze größeren Credit habe verschaffen wollen, richtig ist, erscheint mir zweifelhaft. Denn diese Prägungen sind genau so minderwertig im Metallgehalt wie alle übrigen dieser späteren Jahre, und daß man sie blos um dieses Jahr. zahl 302 willen im Verkehr lieber genommen haben sollte, kann ich nicht glauben: das läßt sich höchstens durch Wiederholung der Aufschrift بلد الله erreichen lassen. — dazu kommt als weitere Schwierigkeit die nach allen diesen Stücken hergefügte Zahl 9. Und hier kommen wir auch das immer noch nicht gelöste Räthsel der Mustimungen: diese so völlig incongruenten Doppeldatierungen. Ich glaube mich heute noch daß meine 1894 gegebenen Erklärungen für einen Teil derselben zutreffen. Und für die mir unerklärlich gebliebenen Datierungen (1309 – 5; 1302 – 9; 1315 – 8 usw.) haben mich Artin und Smith keine Lösung zu geben vermocht. Es wird mich sehr interessieren, Ihre Erklärung kennen zu lernen.

Von dem 10 Piastrestück 1304 unserer Sammlung wie von einigen anderen Stücken, die ich aber Ihren Abbildungen nicht finden konnte, habe ich Gip-

abgüsse anfertigen lassen und an die Leute abgeschickt.

Ein 10 Kaiserstück von 1904 mit der Zahl 1 kenne ich nicht.

Prägungen von 1910 ohne die ~~Zahl~~ Zeichen auf der Rückseite haben wir hier 10-Kaiser, 5-Kaiser, 2-Kaiser, 1-Kaiser.

Prägungen mit den Jahrzahlen 1913 und 1914 sind gewiß nicht ausgegeben worden; denn dann würden davon doch sicherlich auch Stücke übrig geblieben u. in den Handel gekommen seien –

Bezüglich der von Ihnen gewünschten Kriegserinnerungen 1914 möchte ich bemerken, daß ein Schweizer Franz vorläufig wohl nicht im Handel zu haben sein dürfte. Denn es ist mir bekannt, daß einer der damals stationierten Soldaten diese von uns deutschen aufs höchste geschätzte Münzsorte noch während des Krieges verkaufen mußte.

Sie fragen auch an über Belagerungs- oder Notgeld. Da kein deutscher Ort vom Feind belagert worden ist, brauchten wir auch kein Belagerungsgeld anzufertigen. Dagegen war allerdings in den allerersten Tagen nach Kriegsausbruch das Silbergeld im Kleinverkehr plötzlich recht knapp geworden, besonders in den kleinen Ortschaften der Grenzgegenden

KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN IN BERLIN.

KAISER-FRIEDRICH-MUSEUM

BERLIN, C. 2, den .....

Um diesem Mangel abzuhelfen, hat eine große Anzahl von Bankunternehmungen u. auch großen Industrieunternehmen Notgeldscheine ausgegeben. Wir sammeln in unserem Münzkabinett diese Stücke indem wir uns solche meistens direkt von den betreffenden Stellen erbitten. Soweit wir bis jetzt erforschen konnten, dürfte es sich um ca 130 verschiedene Ausgabestellen handeln im deutschen Reiche. Aber auch aus Nordfrankreich u. Russisch-Polen haben wir bereits ähnliches Notgeld erhalten.

Unser französisches Kriegs-Geldscheine (10, 5, 2, 1 M.) sind nicht Not- oder Kriegsgeld, sondern reguläres Zahlungsgeld, das durch die Goldbestände unserer Reichsbank gedeckt ist.

Von dem oben genannten Notgeld Ihnen Stücke zu besorgen bin ich leider nicht in der Lage, da solche bis jetzt noch nicht in den Handel gekommen sind. Es wird auch später voraussichtlich sehr selten bleiben da es nur ganz kurze Zeit zu im Kurs gewesen ist u. sofort nach erfolgter Einlösung von den Ausgabestellen vernichtet wird.

Was Sie mir über die Sympathien Amerikas für unsern Feind schreiben ist uns nicht neu. Wir zuckten darüber stolz die Achseln und blieben recht kühl dabei.

Daß wir ein großes starkes Volk sind, können Sie ja doch nicht mehr bezweifeln nachdem wir uns nun allen Seiten der vielfach überlegenen Feind so meisterlich und siegreich erwehrt haben. Daß die ganze Disputerei bis zu den schlußzeugigen Gründen in Betreff der ihr böhmischen Militärfreunde doch fast unbegreiflich vor Verdrehung sich verschafft haben und es jetzt nicht mehr wiederringen kann das kann ja jetzt vielleicht auch Amerika allmählig mit Gründen greifen.

Und auf welcher Seite Recht u. Wahrheit, Sittlichkeit u. Größe, Menschlichkeit und Cultur stehen, darüber werden Ihnen ja nun auch nach dem Kriege die Augen aufgehen, die Sie jetzt darüber noch verschließen oder sich verschließen lassen durch diese Mauer von Verläumdung u. Lüge.

Den ganzen Krieg von seiner Vorgeschichte an mit allem was er jetzt und darauf mit sich bringt, können wir betrachten von unserem Gewissen vor der Geschichte vor der Menschheit vor Gott. Wir haben ihn

unbeschreiblich wie gewollt, es ist aus aufgezwungen von Rußland-England, aus das neue aufgeschreckte Frankreich nicht mitthun.

Wir sind die endgültigen Siegen ganz sicher, die wir ganz aus eigener eisernen Kraft und Tüchtigkeit erringen werden. Das ist nicht Prahlerei u. Großthuerei, sondern das erhebende stolze Gefühl des eigenen Kraftbewußtseins, welches einigen freien Volkes!

Und daß wir den Krieg nicht nur militärisch u. moralisch durchzuhalten vermögen, sondern auch wirthschaftlich, das merken wir auch unsere Feinde die sich hier so gründlich verrechnet haben wie in so vielen anderen Punkten.

Gestatten Sie mir persönlich noch ein vertrauliches Wort: wir Deutschen hatten schon seit Amerikas Friedensklängen stets viele Sympathien u. große Achtung vor Ihrem U.S.A. deshalb ist es uns jetzt völlig unverständlich wie eine Weltmacht wie Sie doch sein wollen die Neutralität aufhebt u. durchführt, nämlich völlig einseitig für die eine Kriegspartei, der sie den größten Theil des kostbarsten Kriegsmaterials liefert, wie sie sich von England behandeln, controliren u. reglementiren läßt, u. wie sie endlich vor seinem gefährlichsten Gegner Japan, dadurch zurückweicht u. diesem die Stirn selbst

so eine [illegible] Herausstellung in Italien in dem Willen Ihnen freigibt. Ich fürchte sehr Sie haben Ihr größtes Interesse einem augenblicklichen Blick die Kriegslieferungen gewährten großen Geschäftsgewinn, Molini, die aber durchaus völlig unverständlich sind.

Das ist ja natürlich Ihre eigene Angelegenheit. Andererseits ist es sehr daran Ihnen, darauf daran Einschätzung Ihrer Größe, Ihrer Selbstständigkeit in Mailand zu verwirklichen.

Es würde mich persönlich sehr interessiren, darüber einmal Ihr eigenes Urtheil über diese schwerwiegende Frage zu erfahren.

Zu jeder weiteren wissenschaftlichen Unterstützung werde Sie mich stets sehr gern bereit finden.

Mit freundlichsten Empfehlungen in vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Heinrich Nissen

Dear Sir

Your two letters of Oct 7 + Dec 21. 1912 I have received. You will kindly excuse the long delay in my reply to the fact that in Oct. my hopeful son, a medical student, died at the age of 23 in consequence of an operation for appendicitis + as a result I myself sickened therefore could not perform much work during the past few months.

I have returned your manuscript today + hope that it has reached you safely.

Now, to the subject itself: in the first place let me extend to you my pleasure (or satisfaction) in regard to the extensive material which you have collected on the issues of the Mahdi. Let me hope that you will succeed in arriving at a final settlement of the entire question.

Concerning your detailed questions, I will answer them as far as I am able.

As to the only good issue of the Mahdi I can only cite my work of the year 1894

in which I have treated of this subject Our collection does not possess this piece, I have seen it however in the possession of my friend Prof. Dr. Moritz, the former director of the Khedivial Library in Cairo. The coin does not bear any special marks (or inscriptions) which accurate it with the Mahdi, as it is of Osmanli type and legend, but the concurring reports received from the habitation of the Mahdi are confirmatory of the authenticity of the piece.

I have never become acquainted with 10 piastre pieces of the Mahdi himself. Concerning the 20 Piastre piece, some of in very base metal with the years 1302, it is certain that they ~~were~~ could not have been ~~not~~ actually issued in 1302. As we possess only one coin of this type, I have assumed up to this ~~typ~~ time that it is an error of the die-cutter. This explanation is not confirmed, as you possess a number of these pieces. But I doubt whether your assumption that the pre-dating of these coins to obtain a greater credit is correct, as these issues are exactly as deficient in metal weight as those of late years, and I cannot believe that they would be more acceptable to the public (or customers) on account of having the year 1302

such an object (or result) could be attained by simply repeating the inscription S ⸗ ⸗ ⸗ ⸗. To this must be added the further difficulty, i.e. the figure 9 added to all of these coins. This brings us to the hitherto unsolved riddle of the Mahdi coins, the completely incongruous double dates. I still think that my descriptions (or readings) made in 1894 for a portion of them are the solution. And for the dates that remained undecipherable to me (1309-5; 1302-9; 1315-8 etc) Amin & Smith have not succeeded in solving them. I would be much interested to hear your explanation of these.

Of the 10 Piastre piece 1304 of our collection, as well as some other pieces that I do not find among your illustrations, I have had plaster casts made & have sent some to you today.

A 10 Piastre piece of 1304 with the figure 1, I do not know of.

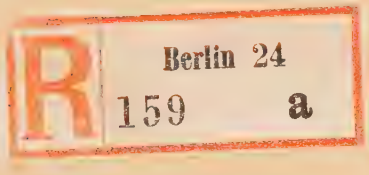
Of the issues of 1310 (?1300) without the spears on the reverse we possess 20 Piastres, 5 Piastres, 2 Piastres and 1 Piastre.

Issues with the dates 1313 and 1314 were certainly never circulated, because in such case pieces would most certainly have been left over and got into circulation

Einschreiben!

für unsere Nutzen

Mr. Howland Wood.



The American Numismatic Society.
156th Street West of Broadway.
27
New York.

Professor Dr. H. Nützel. Berlin C2. Kgl. Museen.

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KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN

NEW YORK STA. MUSEUM REGISTERED FEB 10 1915

KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN IN BERLIN.

KAISER-FRIEDRICH-MUSEUM

BERLIN, C. 2, den 30. September 1915.

Mr. Howland Wood.

Broadway, at 156th Street.
New York.

Sehr geehrter Herr,

da ich wegen einer schweren Operation leider drei Monate krank lag, ist es mir erst jetzt möglich Ihnen für Ihren Brief vom 9. Aug. 15 und für die gütigst übersandten Sonder-Abdrücke aus dem Am. J. of Num. zu danken.

Das 2. Exemplar Ihrer Studie über: The Coinage of the West Indies and the Sou Marqué' habe ich gemäss Ihrer Bestimmung einem Berliner Sammler

überseeischer Münzen übergeben.

Ich habe die 3 Abhandlungen mit Interesse durchgesehen.

In der von Mr. A. Wormser über: Coins and Medals of Transylvania ist gar kein Bezug genommen auf das umfassende Werk von A. Resch: Siebenbürgische Münzen und Medaillen von 1538 bis zur Gegenwart. Hermannstadt 1907. – Vielleicht haben Sie die Güte Herrn Wormser auf dieses Werk aufmerksam zu machen.

Für die Herstellung der Gipsabgüsse sowie für Porto berechnet unser Münzkabinett keine Kosten; doch wären wir Ihnen für gütige Zusendung eines Sonderabdruckes Ihrer betreffenden Arbeit sehr dankbar. –

Wie die amerikanischen Zeitungen berichten, herrscht

in dem „neutralen“ (!!!) Amerika eitel Freude und Jubel über die französischen Erfolge bei ihrer letzten grossen Offensive. Ich glaube, unsere „guten Freunde“ in Amerika haben zu früh gejubelt. Die durch eine vielfache Übermacht und durch Amerika's Munitionslieferungen erlangten Erfolge sind rein lokale geblieben und haben für die endgültige Entscheidung bisher gar keine Bedeutung erlangt. Unser deutsches Heer wird standhalten!! Und wir Deutschen in der Heimat haben gar keine Furcht, am allerwenigsten vor den Drohungen eines Wilson, der ja nur noch England's Agent und Schleppenträger zu sein scheint. Am Sonntag in den Kirchen für den europäischen Frieden beten lassen und die 6 Wochentage hindurch mit allen Kräften durch jede Art von Unterstützung der einen Kriegspartei den Krieg verlängern, für eine derartige Auffassung von Neutralität,

Moral und Religion fehlt uns „gottlosen Barbaren" jedes Verständnis – und vielleicht denkt der heilige Gott selbst auch ein bischen anders über eine solche Religiosität wie der fromme Herr Wilson.

Ich glaube an eine sittliche Weltordnung in Gottes Hand – und ebendeshalb auch an unseren endgültigen vollen Sieg über alle unsere Feinde, zu denen wir alle auch Amerika leider zählen müssen.

Verzeihen Sie diese Expectoration eines sein deutsches Vaterland über alles liebenden deutschen Mannes, der den offenen ehrlichen Feind voll zu schätzen und zu achten weiss aber Zweideutigkeit und Hinterhältigkeit unter falscher Maske hasst und verachtet.

Ihnen persönlich den Ausdruck meiner vollkommenen Hochachtung und die ehrliche Versicherung jederzeit zu Ihrer wissenschaftlichen Unterstützung bereit zu sein.

In aufrichtiger Ergebenheit

H. Nützel.

KÖNIGLICHE MUSEEN IN BERLIN.

KAISER-FRIEDRICH-MUSEUM

BERLIN, C. 2, den 28. Dezember 1916.

Rec'd Jan 31

Mr. Howland Wood.
New York.

Sehr verehrter Herr!

Sie hatten die Güte dem Kgl. Münzkabinett Berlin ein Stück der neu ausgegebenen amerikanischen Dimes zu schenken. Wollen Sie für dieses freundliche Wohlwollen unseren verbindlichsten Dank empfangen.

Ich bemerke noch, dass Ihre vom 31. Okt. datierte Sendung erst heute, den 28. Dezember, hier eingetroffen ist infolge der englischen Briefzensur.

In vorzüglicher Hochachtung

H. Nützel.